



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Michael Mangold

Serial No.: 09/982,757

Confirmation No.: 8438

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Group Art Unit: 3618

Title: SKI BINDING OR SNOWBOARD BINDING

Attorney File : MA0364US (#90081)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant would like to call the Examiner's attention to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98. A concise explanation of the relevance of the German patent is incorporated in the specification of the application. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(g) and 37 C.F.R. 1.97(h), filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made and shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered

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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being transmitted therewith) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

January 17, 2002
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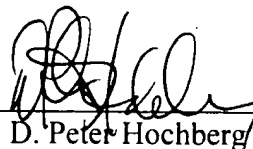
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to be, material to patentability as defined in 34 C.F.R. 1.56(b).

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Respectfully submitted,

By:



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Enc.: Form PTO-1449
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